Expansion of mobile services in Rajasthan

†942. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BSNL's mobile connections in the State of Rajasthan as on 31st December, 2004;

(b) whether the mobile service has already been started in all Districts < and Tehsil headquarters in the State of Rajasthan;

(c) the scheme for expansion of the mobile service in the State of Rajasthan;

(d) whether mobile connections from BSNL are available on demand in the State of Rajasthan; and

(e) if not, till when this situation will remain so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) In the State of Rajasthan, the number of mobile connections of BSNL as on 31.12.2004 were 3,76,687.

(b) In the State of Rajasthan, BSNL has provided mobile service in all the 32 Districts and has also covered 202 out of 241 Tehsil headquarters.

(c) to (e) In Rajasthan, BSNL has targeted to provide additional 4 lakh cellular mobile connections during the current financial year. At present, post-paid mobile connection of BSNL is available on demand. However, pre-paid connections are being released by BSNL in phased manner in various cities/towns commensurate with the available radio capacity. With the expansion of network, pre-paid mobile connections will also be available on demand.

Changes in TRAI's recommendations

943. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the four-member DoT Committee set up to look into TRAI's recommendations with regard to spectrum rejected the demands for auction of 3G spectrum citing previous experience in telecom licensing;

†Original notice of question was received in Hindi

(b) if so, whether Government have studied the recommendations made by DoT Committee;

(c) whether Government propose any changes in the recommendations made by DoT Committee; and

(d) the disadvantages of TRAI's recommendation for additional charges by way of 'Y' component?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) to (d) The recommendations of TRAI on spectrum related issues have been examined by a Committee within DoT . The spectrum issues are very complex, necessitating in-depth analysis. The recommendations of the Committee are being examined by the Government, taking into account various aspects,appropriately.

Indian delegation in Iraq

944. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of persons constituting Ministerial as well as Non-Ministerial delegation from India visited Iraq since 1990, date-wise showing separately those who called on the then Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and those who called on his Minister Tariq Aziz and those who called both duly indicating dates of the respective meetings; and

(b) the details of the declared purposes of visits of the respective delegations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) (a) and (b) Details of Ministerial and non-Ministerial delegations from India to Iraq since 1990 as per information available with the Ministry and the Embassy of India in Baghdad are as follows:—

(i) Those who called on the then Iraqi President Saddam Hussien

Sl. No	Details of the Delegation	Date of the Visit	Purpose of the visit	Date of the meeting
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Shri I.K. Gujral, then External Affairs Minister	August 1990	Bilateral visit	August 1990